CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

compressing electronic program guide (EPG) data using:

a character compression technique that generates a compression table by examining the EPG data to recognize common sets of characters, the compression table being used to assign a plurality of character encoding values to represent each common set of characters;

a word compression technique that analyzes the EPG data to create a word table that includes words having a predetermined number of letters, wherein words having the predetermined number of letters are represented by a plurality of word encoding values; and

spacing and capitalization rules to reduce a number of character encoding values in the EPG data in which one of the spacing rules includes removing character encoding values that identify spaces in the compressed EPG data, and one of the capitalization rules includes limiting a number of character encoding values such that separate encoding values are not needed to represent capital letters;

applying at least one of [[a]] the capitalization [[rule]] rules and [[a]] one of the spacing [[rule]] rules to a word obtained from the compressed ~~electronic program guide (EPG)~~ EPG data, the compressed EPG data including [[a]] the plurality of word encoding values and [[a]] the plurality of character encoding values, wherein each of the capitalization and spacing rules is based on an arrangement, in the compressed EPG

data, of one [[said]] word encoding value that references the obtained word with respect to at least one of:

one or more [[said]] of the character encoding values; and

one other [[said]] word encoding value; and

outputting the obtained word to which at least one of the capitalization [[rule]] rules and the spacing [[rule]] rules was applied.

2. (Currently Amended) A method as described in claim 1, wherein each [[said]] capitalization rule specifies capitalizing a first character included in the obtained word based upon a condition selected from the group consisting of:

if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word in the compressed EPG data immediately follows one [[said]] character encoding value in the compressed EPG data that indicates an end of a sentence or an end of a previous data string; and

if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word in the compressed EPG data is ordered as a first encoding value in a compressed data string included in the compressed EPG data.

3. (Currently Amended) A method as described in claim 1, wherein the spacing rule is selected from the group consisting of:

a first spacing rule that specifies if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word directly follows another [[said]] word encoding value, then

a single space is inserted between the obtained word and a word referenced by the other [[said]] word encoding value;

a second spacing rule that specifies if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word directly precedes one [[said]] character encoding value that references a letter or a number, then a space is inserted after the obtained word; and

a third spacing rule that specifies if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word directly follows one [[said]] character encoding value that references a letter or a number, then a space is inserted before the obtained word.

4. (Original) One or more computer-readable media comprising computer-executable instructions that, when executed, perform the method as recited in claim 1.

5. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

compressing electronic program guide (EPG) data by:

generating a compression table by examining the EPG data to recognize common sets of characters, the compression table being used to assign a plurality of character encoding values to represent each common set of characters;

analyzing the EPG data to create a word table that includes words having a predetermined number of letters, wherein words having the predetermined number of letters are represented by a plurality of word encoding values; and

reducing a number of character encoding values in the EPG data, the reducing including using one of a plurality of spacing rules to remove character encoding values that identify spaces in the compressed EPG data, and using one of a plurality of capitalization rules to limit a number of character encoding values such that separate encoding values are not needed to represent capital letters;

decompressing the ~~compressed electronic program guide (EPG)~~ EPG data that includes [[a]] the plurality of word encoding values and [[a]] the plurality of character encoding values, the compressed EPG data being decompressed by:

comparing one or more of the plurality of word encoding values with word encoding values in a word table to find a match, wherein:

each [[said]] word encoding value in the word table references a word included in the word table; and

for each [[said]] match, obtaining the word referenced by the matching word encoding value from the word table;

applying at least one of [[a]] the capitalization [[rule]] rules and [[a]] the spacing [[rule]] rules to the obtained word that is based on an arrangement, in the compressed EPG data, of one [[said]] word encoding value that references the obtained word with respect to at least one of:

one or more [[said]] of the character encoding values; and

one other [[said]] word encoding value; and

outputting the obtained word to which at least one of the capitalization rule and the spacing rule was applied.

6. (Currently Amended) A method as described in claim 5, wherein each [[said]] capitalization rule specifies capitalizing a first character included in the obtained word based upon a condition selected from the group consisting of:

if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word in the compressed EPG data immediately follows one [[said]] character encoding value in the compressed EPG data that indicates an end of a sentence or an end of a previous data string; and

if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word in the compressed EPG data is ordered as a first encoding value in a compressed data string included in the compressed EPG data.

7. (Currently Amended) A method as described in claim 5, wherein the spacing rule is selected from the group consisting of:

a first spacing rule that specifies if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word in the compressed EPG data directly follows another [[said]] word encoding value in the compressed EPG data, then a single space is inserted between the obtained word and a word referenced by the other [[said]] word encoding value;

a second spacing rule that specifies if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word in the compressed EPG data directly precedes one [[said]] character encoding value in the compressed EPG data that references a letter or a number, then a space is inserted after the obtained word; and

a third spacing rule that specifies if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word in the compressed EPG data directly follows one [[said]] character encoding value in the compressed EPG data that references a letter or a number, then a space is inserted before the obtained word.

8. (Original) One or more computer-readable media comprising computer-executable instructions that, when executed, perform the method as recited in claim 5.

9. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

compressing electronic program guide (EPG) data that includes a plurality of television programs, each [[said]] television program having one or more television program characteristics, each [[said]] television program characteristic having a value, each [[said]] value having one or more characters, the EPG data being compressed by:

comparing the one or more characters of each [[said]] value with one or more words in a word table to find a match, wherein each [[said]] word in the word table is referenced by a word encoding value in the word table, and for each [[said]] match, replacing the matching one or more characters of each [[said]] value with the word encoding value in the word table that references the matching word;

comparing the one or more characters of each [[said]] value that do not match any of the words in the word table with one or more characters in a character table to find a match, wherein the character table includes one or more character encoding values, and wherein each [[said]] character encoding value

references one or more [[said]] of the characters in the character table, and for each [[said]] match, replacing the matching one or more characters of each [[said]] value with the character encoding value in the character table that references the matching one or more characters; and

applying one or more spacing rules and capitalization rules to the EPG data that are based on an arrangement of each [[said]] word encoding value with respect to at least one of:

one [[said]] character encoding value; and

one other [[said]] word encoding value,

wherein one of the spacing rules reduces reduce a number of the character encoding values in the EPG data by removing character encoding values that identify spaces in the compressed EPG data, and one of the capitalization rules includes limiting a number of the character encoding values such that separate encoding values are not needed to represent capital letters.

10. (Original) A method as described in claim 9, further comprising outputting the EPG data to which the one or more spacing rules were applied.

11. (Currently Amended) A method as described in claim 9, wherein each [[said]] spacing rule specifies removal of each [[said]] character encoding value from the EPG data that references a space based upon a condition selected from the group consisting of:

the character encoding value that references the space is disposed directly between two [[said]] word encoding values;

the character encoding value that references the space directly follows one [[said]] word encoding value and directly precedes one [[said]]] character encoding value that references a letter or a number in the character table; and

the character encoding value that references the space directly precedes one [[said]] word encoding value and directly follows one [[said]] character encoding value that references a letter or a number in the character table.

12. (Original) One or more computer-readable media comprising computer-executable instructions that, when executed, perform the method as recited in claim 9.

13-30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A client device comprising:

a processor; and

a memory configured to maintain:

compressed electronic program guide (EPG) data that includes a plurality of word encoding values and a plurality of character encoding values, the EPG data being compressed by:

generating a compression table by examining the EPG data to recognize common sets of characters, the compression table being used

to assign the plurality of character encoding values to represent each common set of characters;

analyzing the EPG data to create a word table that includes words having a predetermined number of letters, wherein words having the predetermined number of letters are represented by the plurality of word encoding values; and

reducing a number of character encoding values in the EPG data, the reducing including using one of a plurality of spacing rules to remove character encoding values that identify spaces in the compressed EPG data, and using one of a plurality of capitalization rules to limit a number of character encoding values such that separate encoding values are not needed to represent capital letters; and

an EPG application that is executable on the processor to:

apply at least one of [[a]] the capitalization [[rule]] rules and [[a]] the spacing [[rule]] rules to a word obtained from the compressed EPG data that is based on an arrangement of one [[said]] word encoding value that references the obtained word with respect to at least one of:

one or more [[said]] of the character encoding values; and

one other [[said]] word encoding value;

wherein each [[said]] capitalization rule specifies capitalizing a first character included in the obtained word based upon a condition selected from the group consisting of:

if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word in the compressed EPG data immediately follows one [[said]] character encoding value in the compressed EPG data that indicates an end of a sentence or an end of a previous data string; and

if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word in the compressed EPG data is ordered as a first encoding value in a compressed data string included in the compressed EPG data;

wherein the spacing rule is selected from the group consisting of:

a first spacing rule that specifies if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word directly follows another [[said]] word encoding value, then a single space is inserted between the obtained word and a word referenced by the other [[said]] word encoding value;

a second spacing rule that specifies if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word directly precedes one [[said]] character encoding value that references a letter or a number, then a space is inserted after the obtained word; and

a third spacing rule that specifies if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word directly follows one [[said]] character encoding value in the EPG data that

references a letter or a number, then a space is inserted before the obtained word;

output the obtained word to which at least one of the capitalization rule and the spacing rule was applied.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Canceled)

34. (Original) A client device as described in claim 31, further comprising a tuner for receiving the compressed EPG data that is broadcast over a broadcast network.

35. (Currently Amended) A client device comprising:

a processor; and

a memory configured to maintain:

compressed electronic program guide (EPG) data that includes a plurality of word encoding values and a plurality of character encoding values, the EPG data being compressed by:

generating a compression table by examining the EPG data to recognize common sets of characters, the compression table being used to assign the plurality of character encoding values to represent each common set of characters;

analyzing the EPG data to create a word table that includes words having a predetermined number of letters, wherein words having the predetermined number of letters are represented by the plurality of word encoding values; and

reducing a number of character encoding values in the EPG data, the reducing including using one of a plurality of spacing rules to remove character encoding values that identify spaces in the compressed EPG data, and using one of a plurality of capitalization rules to limit a number of character encoding values such that separate encoding values are not needed to represent capital letters;

a word table including one or more words and one or more word encoding values, each [[said]] word is referenced by one [[said]] word encoding value;

a character table including one or more characters and one or more character encoding values, wherein each [[said]] character encoding value references one or more [[said]] of the characters; and

an EPG application that is executable on the processor to decompress the compressed electronic program guide (EPG) data by:

comparing one or more of the plurality of word encoding values with the one or more word encoding values in the table to find a match, and for each [[said]] match, obtaining the word referenced by the matching word encoding value from the table;

applying at least one of [[a]] the capitalization [[rule]] rules and [[a]] the spacing [[rule]] rules to the obtained word that is based on an

arrangement, in the compressed EPG data, of one [[said]] word encoding value that references the obtained word with respect to at least one of:

one or more [[said]] of the character encoding values; and

one other [[said]] word encoding value; and

outputting the obtained word to which at least one of the capitalization rule and the spacing rule was applied.

36. (Currently Amended) A client device as described in claim 35, wherein each [[said]] capitalization rule specifies capitalizing a first character included in the obtained word based upon a condition selected from the group consisting of:

if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word in the compressed EPG data immediately follows one [[said]] character encoding value in the compressed EPG data that indicates an end of a sentence or an end of a previous data string; and

if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word in the compressed EPG data is ordered as a first encoding value in a compressed data string included in the compressed EPG data.

37. (Currently Amended) A client device as described in claim 35, wherein the spacing rule is selected from the group consisting of:

a first spacing rule that specifies if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word in the compressed EPG data directly follows another [[said]] word encoding value in the compressed EPG data, then a single space is

inserted between the obtained word and a word referenced by the other [[said]] word encoding value;

a second spacing rule that specifies if [[said]] the word encoding value that references the obtained word in the compressed EPG data directly precedes one [[said]] character encoding value in the compressed EPG data that references a letter or a number, then a space is inserted after the obtained word; and

a third spacing rule that specifies if [[said]] word encoding value that references the obtained word in the compressed EPG data directly follows one [[said]] character encoding value in the compressed EPG data that references a letter or a number, then a space is inserted before the obtained word.

38. (Original) A client device as described in claim 35, further comprising a tuner for receiving the compressed EPG data that is broadcast over a broadcast network.

39-50. (Canceled)

51. (Currently Amended) An electronic program guide (EPG) server comprising:

a processor; and

a memory configured to maintain:

EPG data that includes a plurality of television programs, each television program having one or more television program characteristics, each television program characteristic having a value, each [[said]] value having one or more

characters, the EPG data being compressed and decompressed prior to being stored in the memory, the EPG data being compressed using:

a character compression technique that generates a compression table by examining the EPG data to recognize common sets of characters, the compression table being used to assign a plurality of character encoding values to represent each common set of characters;

a word compression technique that analyzes the EPG data to create a word table that includes words having a predetermined number of letters, wherein words having the predetermined number of letters are represented by a plurality of word encoding values; and

spacing and capitalization rules to reduce a number of character encoding values in the EPG data in which one of the spacing rules includes removing character encoding values that identify spaces in the compressed EPG data, and one of the capitalization rules includes limiting a number of character encoding values such that separate encoding values are not needed to represent capital letters;

a word table including one or more words and one or more of the word encoding values, each [[said]] word encoding value ~~references~~ referencing one [[said]] word;

a character table including one or more characters and one or more of the character encoding values, wherein each [[said]] character encoding value references one or more [[said]] of the characters in the character table; and

an EPG application that is executable on the processor to:

compare the one or more characters of each [[said]] value with the one or more words in the word table to find a match, and for each [[said]] match, replacing the matching one or more characters of each [[said]] value with the word encoding value in the word table that references the matching word;

compare the one or more characters of each [[said]] value that do not match any of the words in the word table with the one or more characters in the character table to find a match, and for each [[said]] match, replacing the matching one or more characters of each [[said]] value with the character encoding value in the character table that references the matching one or more characters; and

apply one or more of the spacing rules to the EPG data that are based on an arrangement of each [[said]] word encoding value with respect to at least one of:

one [[said]] character encoding value; and

one other [[said]] word encoding value.

52. (Original) An EPG server as described in claim 51, wherein the EPG application is executable on the processor to output the EPG data to which the spacing rule was applied.

53. (Currently Amended) An EPG server as described in claim 51, wherein each [[said]] spacing rule specifies removal of each [[said]] character encoding value from the

EPG data that references a space based upon a condition selected from the group consisting of:

the character encoding value that references the space is disposed directly between two [[said]] word encoding values;

the character encoding value that references the space directly follows one [[said]] word encoding value and directly precedes one [[said]] character encoding value that references a letter or a number in the character table; and

the character encoding value that references the space directly precedes one [[said]] word encoding value and directly follows one [[said]] character encoding value that references a letter or a number in the character table.

54. (Original) An EPG server as described in claim 51, wherein the EPG server further comprises a broadcast transmitter that is configured to broadcast the EPG data to which the one or more spacing rules were applied over a broadcast network.

55-60. (Withdrawn)